

CLAIMS

1. A postal sorting process according to which mail items (A) are sorted by machine (1, 2) in first sorting offices (CTA1, CTA2) so as to compile ordered batches of mail items (L11-L23) each corresponding to a certain zone of distribution of the mail items of the relevant batch, and in which said batches of mail items originating from various first sorting offices and corresponding to one and the same distribution zone (L11, L21) are processed by machine in a second sorting office (CTD) so as to compile one or more mailman's rounds (T1, T2, T3), a machine-readable sort code indicative of a distribution address being affixed to each mail item during sorting in one of said first sorting offices with a view to being used during the processing of this mail item in the second sorting office, characterized in that it furthermore consists in compiling in said first sorting offices, ordered lists (C11-C23) of said codes which are representative of the order of the mail items in said batches of mail items; in transferring said lists of codes from the first sorting offices to the second sorting office; and during the processing of the batches of mail items in the second sorting office, in comparing (10) the codes read by machine on the mail items with the codes extracted from said lists of codes with a view to recovering errors in reading said codes by machine.

2. The process according to claim 1, in which said lists of codes are transferred from the first sorting offices to the second sorting office by way of a telecommunication network.